

## W-01303A-08-0227 SW-01303A-08-0227

From:

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**ORIGINAL** 

Sent:

Wednesday, October 22, 2008 7:00 AM

Gleason-WebEmail; Mayes-WebEmail; Pierce-Web; Mundell-Web; Hatch-WebEmail To:

Subject: VOTE NO ON AZ WATER CO. PROPOSED RATE INCREASE CLOSE TO 100% - SW-01303A-08-0227

Honorable Arizona Corporation Commission Chairman and all of you Honorable Commissioners

Please for the sake of every resident, of the Mohave Valley, especially the Seniors on modest fixed income, we encourage each of you to vote a resounding NO on the subject Arizona American Water Company proposed rate increase of almost double from \$46.95 to \$80.10 per month.

This is obscene. We have already had our rate increased this past January by 25% and prior to that these people were given a 34% increase. Now they are asking for another 79%.

I respectfully submit to the commissioners that an independent audit of their books should be conducted prior to even considering any new rate increase regardless of the amount. And, if this audit would determine that perhaps they may be considered for any rate increase, their contract should be terminated as they are an inefficient operation.

Their letter states "Approximately 95% of the requested revenue increase is due to new investment in the local system." If Arizona American Water wants to make investments fine, let them do it and let them recoup through tax incentives but not on the backs of "Joe" home owner.

We don't want to finance any of their investments.

Respectfully,

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Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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As a retired senior on a fixed income I find Arizona American Water has the unmitigated gall to notify their customers by letter dated 10/1/08 to explain their recent request to the ACC to almost double the Mohave Waste Water district homeowner rate from \$49.65 to \$89.10a month.

Then, knowing full well the wrath they would face gave their customers only 6-7 days to do due diligence to prepare for their hastily convened meeting. Their meeting organization was so pitiful that they couldn't provide enough seating for those in attendance. These people are almost as brazen as armed bank robbers.

Look at their letter. In paragraph 2 they state the "There are increases in some (?) operating costs

that have increased since our last request for a rate increase which was filed in January 2006." What the heck is "some"?

Let me set the record straight. They were given a 25% rate increase just this past 1/2008 and prior to that a 34% rate increase. And in less than 12 months they have filed for another increase of 79%. **Seventy-Nine Per Cent!!** This is nothing short of mercenary.

We've already given them an additional 25% in January ostensibly to cover supposed increases in operating expenses. And, if an audit of their books discloses an absolute need for an additional 79% then the ACC needs to terminate their contract(s) and find an organization more responsible that can provide a more cost effective service.

They further state that "ultimately the investments funded by the rate increase <u>may</u> save customers money in the long run". MAY, save us money? May?? That is like saying we may double our money by playing blackjack in the casinos!!

In conclusion this home owner will in no way shape or form give these scoundrels one additional penny even if I risk having a lien put on my property. Furthermore I will be writing to the ACC to demand that they tell AAW to take their request and go pound sand but also that they roll back of the last \$10 per month increase, and I urge my fellow home owners to do so as well.